CONSTITUTION OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF TEACHERS LOCAL 2030

ARTICLE I  NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Greater Santa Cruz Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, Local 2030

ARTICLE II  JURISDICTION

This organization, hereinafter called the Federation, shall represent the American Federation of Teachers and have jurisdiction of the American Federation of Teachers in the Santa Cruz Elementary School District and the Santa Cruz High School District.

ARTICLE III  AFFILIATION

The Federation shall affiliate with the American Federation of Teachers, the California Federation of Teachers, the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and the local AFL-CIO Labor Council.

ARTICLE IV  PURPOSE

The specific and primary purpose of the organization is to operate a labor organization within the meaning of Section 23701a of the California Revenue and Taxation Code. The organization’s goal shall be to advance and to protect the rights and privileges of teachers and to advance the goals of public education in this jurisdiction, the State of California, and the nation. The organization does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to its members and is organized for nonprofit purposes.

ARTICLE V  MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this organization shall be open to all certificated and credentialed persons employed by contract and not designated by the Governing Board as management, supervisory or confidential employees, not represented in another recognized or certificated unit.

ARTICLE VI  OFFICERS

The delegated powers of this Federation shall be administered by the officers established in this Constitution.

A. The officers shall be:

President
Vice-president (representing the high school district)
Vice-president (representing the elementary school district)
Secretary
Treasurer/Membership Coordinator
B. The term of office shall be for two (2) years, July 1 to June 30.

C. Duties of the officers shall be consistent with their titles and be as established in the By-Laws or by action taken by the Council of Representatives.

D. Officer vacancies shall be filled for unexpired terms of office by appointment by the President with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Council of Representatives.

E. Recall of officers shall be accomplished by a majority of votes cast by the entire membership. The recall election may be instigated by petition of twenty percent (20%) of the total membership and shall be conducted by the procedures determined by the Council of Representatives.

ARTICLE VII ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The election procedures for officers of this Federation shall occur as outlined below:

A. The President shall appoint an Election Committee of three persons, none of whom shall currently hold office, at the March meeting of the Council of Representatives.

B. All members of the Federation whose dues are current shall be eligible to hold office in the Federation.

C. The Election Committee shall:

1. send to each member a notice for nomination by the end of the second week in February.
2. provide for the return of the notice of nomination forms five (5) days prior to the March meeting of the Council of Representatives and announce the candidates for each office at this meeting. Before adoption of the Election Committee’s report, the President shall entertain motions for nomination from the floor.
3. upon adoption of the nominations by the Council of Representatives, the Election Committee shall prepare an official ballot of election and send one (1) ballot to each member of the Federation ten (10) working days prior to the end of March. Each member shall return their ballot to a designated ballot box no later than three (3) working days before the end of March.
4. The ballots shall be opened, counted and certified by the Election Committee. The results of the election shall be published and distributed to each member. The ballots and the certified results shall be kept on file until the next election is completed.
ARTICLE VIII  COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Council of Representatives is the official constituted executive body of this Federation.

A. The Council of Representatives shall consist of all elected officers, and representatives from each site, and representatives from each bargaining unit, and a representative from Guest Teachers.

B. School unit representation is based on one (1) representative per each fifteen (15) unit members or fraction thereof within each school in the district. All members in good standing are eligible to be elected to the Council of Representatives. Election of Council of Representatives shall take place prior to the end of each school year.

C. In the case that a separate school (as defined by the school district) is co-located onto the physical campus of another school, each school will retain at least one GSCFT site representative to be elected by the faculty of the specific school.

D. The Council of Representatives shall have legislative and judicial power in all matters affecting this Federation subject to the limitations in the Constitution. Only officially elected representatives or their designees are eligible to vote on matters related to the governance of the Council of Representatives.

E. Regularly monthly meetings shall be held in a place at a time determined by the Council of Representatives. The President shall call special meetings of the Council of Representatives as deemed necessary to the functioning of the organization.

ARTICLE IX  EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board of this Federation established in this Constitution serves as an advisory to the President. Membership, duties and meetings of this body are outlined below:

A. The Executive Board shall be composed of the elected officers.
B. The Executive Board is empowered to be counsel to President, acting in an advisory capacity only. All official policy shall be made only by the Council of Site Representatives.
C. The Executive Board shall meet prior to each regular meeting of the Council of Representatives to adopt and publish the agenda for each meeting. Furthermore, the Executive Board will meet in an advisory capacity, on an as needed basis, to review grievances that have reached a formal level.

ARTICLE X  AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended in the following manner:

A. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast at a regular meeting of the Council of Representatives.
B. Proposed amendments shall be read at least one (1) meeting prior to acceptance/rejection by the Council of Representatives.
C. Amendments may be proposed by petition to the Council of Representatives by fifteen percent (15%) of the Federation membership.

D. Ratification of the proposed amendment shall be by two-thirds (2/3) majority of all votes cast by the membership in an election conducted for that purpose by the Council of Representatives.

ARTICLE XI  MEETING RULES

Unless otherwise specified in the By-Laws, Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern all meetings.

ARTICLE XII  BY-LAWS

All matters not covered by this Constitution, or those matters not clearly interpreted by this Constitution, shall be referred to the By-Laws. The By-Laws can be proposed, changed and amended by the Council of Representatives providing notice of the meeting has been sent to all members in advance., and providing two-thirds (2/3) of those members of the Council of Representatives present and voting, vote affirmative. Proposed changes of the By-Laws shall be sent to each representative prior to voting.

ARTICLE XIII  LIMITATION OF POWER

Notwithstanding any of the above statements of purpose and powers, this association shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the specific purposes of the association.